

Presentation for Wakatipu High School students  
May 12<sup>th</sup> 2021



# *What are resilient communities?*

Prof Simon Kingham

Te Kura Aronukurangi | School of Earth & Environment, Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury

Kaitohutohu Matua Pūtaiao | Chief Science Advisor, Te Manatū Waka | Ministry of Transport

# Aim

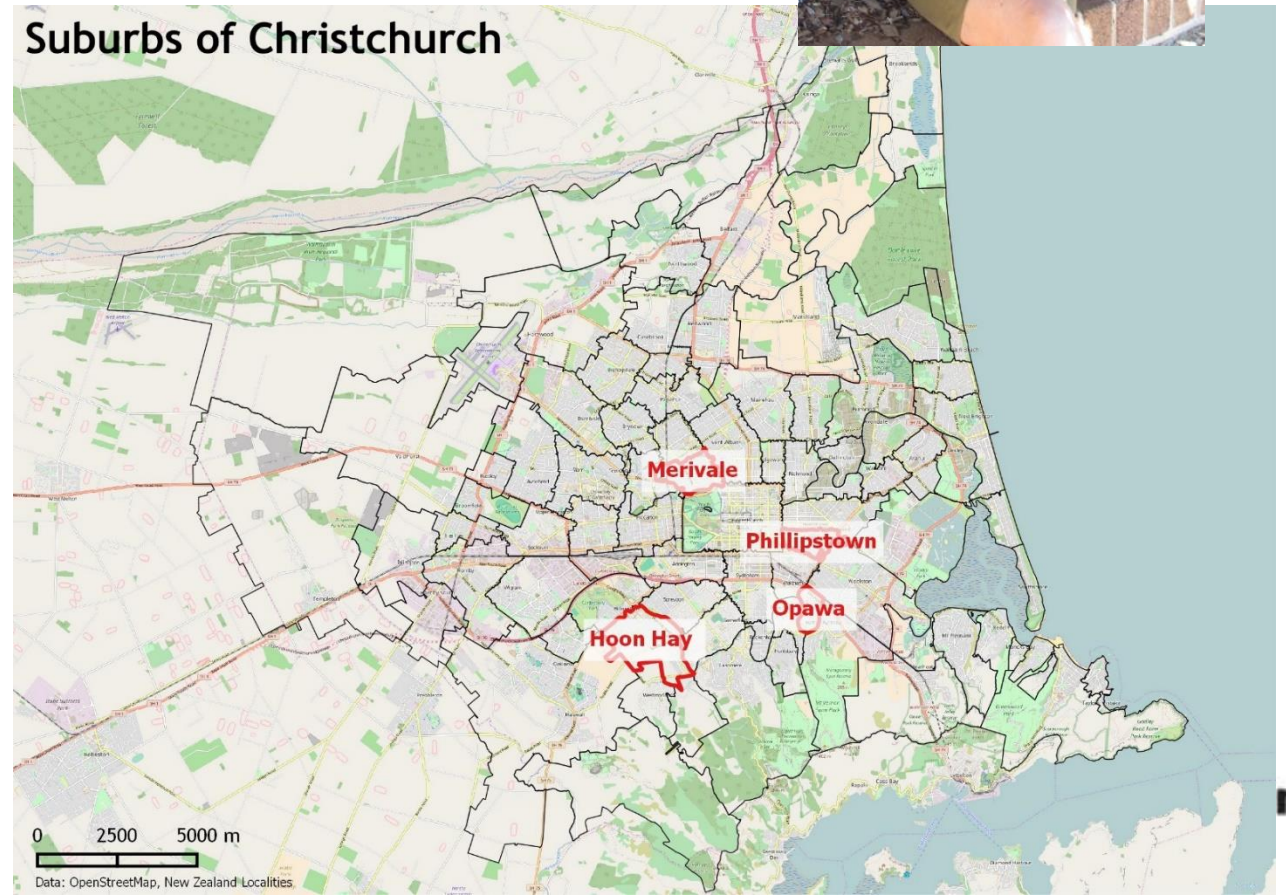
- What did we learn from post-EQ Christchurch in terms of:
  - Building more resilient, healthy and sustainable urban communities?
  - Role of built and social environment?
  - Community development?

# Christchurch research

## Interviews

- Key leaders/stakeholders
- Residents
  - Focus on Hoon Hay, Opawa, Merivale, Phillipstown
  - Density, Socio-economic status, urban form, accessibility, environment

Karen  
Banwell



# Geographically defined

- Hills, river, parks, social boundaries

*“Places like Sumner and Lyttelton got noticed because they are easy to know where they are, they have defined geography”*

*“I could ring and ask for help for my community because I know the area I am asking for”*

*“We are lucky we are defined area and so those that struggled are obscure areas, their geographic areas are not clear”*





# Housing stability

- Often renting vs owning, longevity of tenure

- Owning or longevity of tenure provides permanency and sense of control
- Preference for neighbours who owned rather than rented to reduce transience of neighbours
- Neighbourhood churn has been stressful for many residents
- End of Housing NZ policy of '*Housing for Life*'

*"I have friends who are teachers at the local school and they tell you kids just disappear because families have lost their rentals"*

*"It's the churn in the tenancy that is the issue"*

*"its those who have been living in one place who notice the difference with tenants and renting"*

*"I have been renting for four years, and I don't give a shit about my neighbours where I am because we are temporary campers"*

# Natural and green

- Presence of trees

- Natural places to walk and meander rather than greenspace alone
- Places to reflect and enjoy, walk the dog and bump into others

*“Hagley [park] is soul food for me, the natural place, it is my replenishing time”*

*“My trees, I know them by name”*

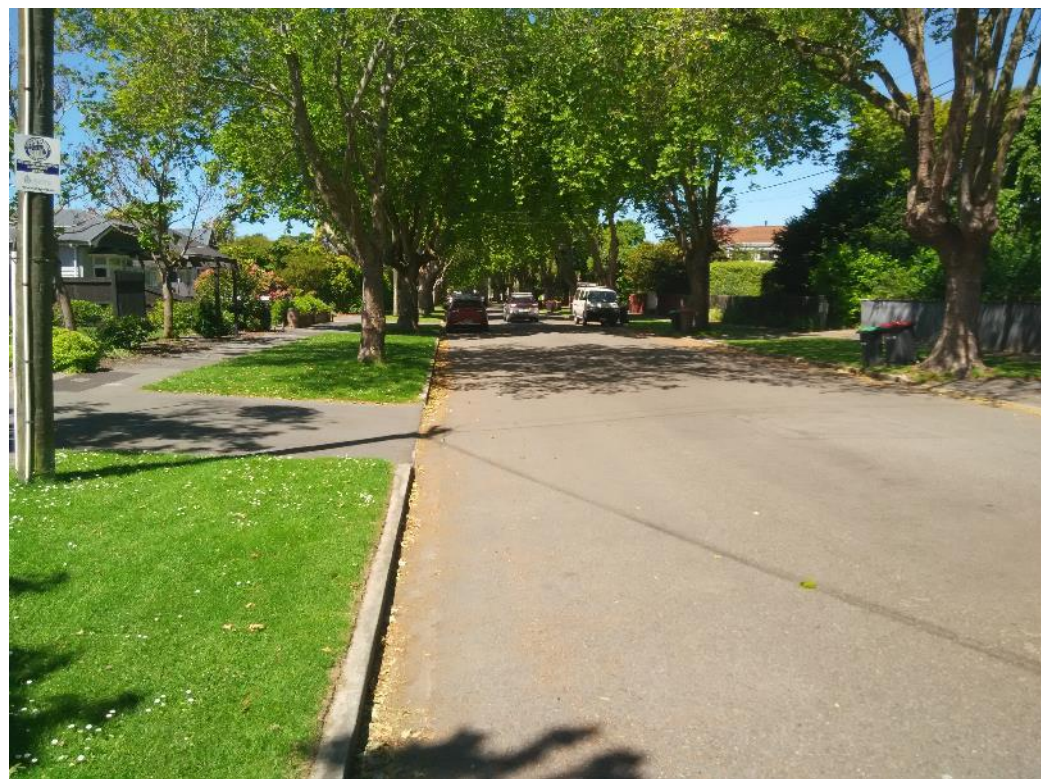
*“I walk by the river everyday as I do my morning perambulation that cuts through a couple of parks that are a vital part of my life”*

- Established subdivisions and large trees – trees important

*“Over there all the houses are beautiful but you haven’t got all the big trees and there are so many rules and regulations you wont get a big tree like that birch there”*

## Green streets and trees

e.g. Christchurch (SK)





## Green streets and trees

e.g. Christchurch (google)





# Greenspace

PUBLIC HEALTH 117 (2013) 1003–1011



ELSEVIER

Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

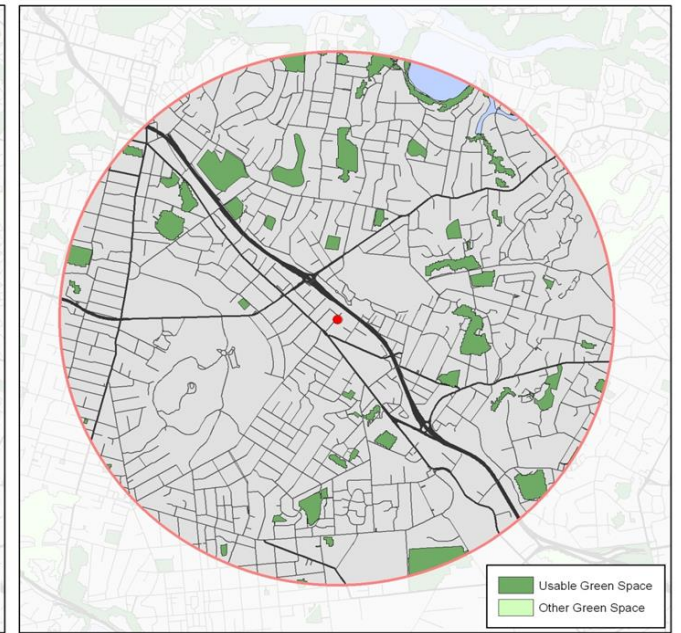
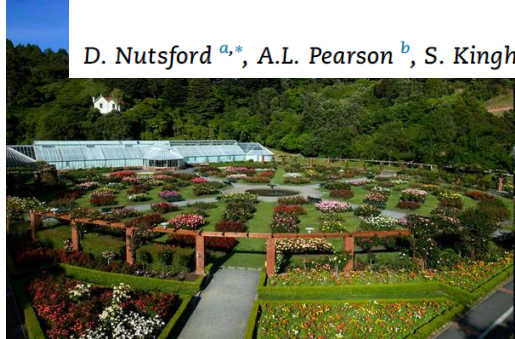
Public Health

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/puhe](http://www.elsevier.com/puhe)

Original Research

## An ecological study investigating the association between access to urban green space and mental health

D. Nutsford <sup>a,\*</sup>, A.L. Pearson <sup>b</sup>, S. Kingham <sup>a</sup>



**Conclusion:** This study found that decreased distance to useable green space and increased proportion of green space within the larger neighbourhood were associated with decreased anxiety/mood disorder treatment counts in an urban environment. This suggests the



# Bluespace





# Bluespace

Health & Place 39 (2016) 70–78



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Health & Place

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/healthplace](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/healthplace)

Residential exposure to visible blue space (but not green space) associated with lower psychological distress in a capital city

Daniel Nutsford<sup>a</sup>, Amber L. Pearson<sup>b,c,\*</sup>, Simon Kingham<sup>a</sup>, Femke Reitsma<sup>a</sup>

## 5. Conclusion

This study, in the capital city of New Zealand, identified an association between increased views of blue space and decreased psychological distress while adjusting for covariates. In addition to



Fig. 1. Distribution of natural environments throughout Wellington City and the greater region.



# Local destinations

- **Local** - community hubs, library, pools, parks, recreation areas  
*“If you have to get in your car it’s not local”*



<http://memia.com/2015/01/31/memia-zeitgeist-2014-2015-2christchurch-re-imagined-and-rebuilt/>



<http://www.mcconnelldowell.com/news/3251-scirt-sensory-garden>



# Gathering places

- Local places of *anticipated/planned* interaction
- Places for purposeful social interaction
- Pubs, cafes, community houses, libraries (multiple use), pools, parks

*“It’s hard for people to engage with each other when you don’t have a meeting place to come together”*





# Bumping places

- Local and linked to walkability
- Places of *accidental/unplanned* interaction
- Streets, primary schools, local natural greenspaces and parks, community facilities, local shops, street furniture



*The school was the only **bumping** place for Phillipstown and then the Ministry closed it.... The Ministry did not see the school as a community hub or the importance for the community*

*Schools pop up constantly as **bumping** places for mums and sometimes dads too*  
*Yes **bumping** into people is so important I think is what I like and that is what I connect with*





# Bumping spaces

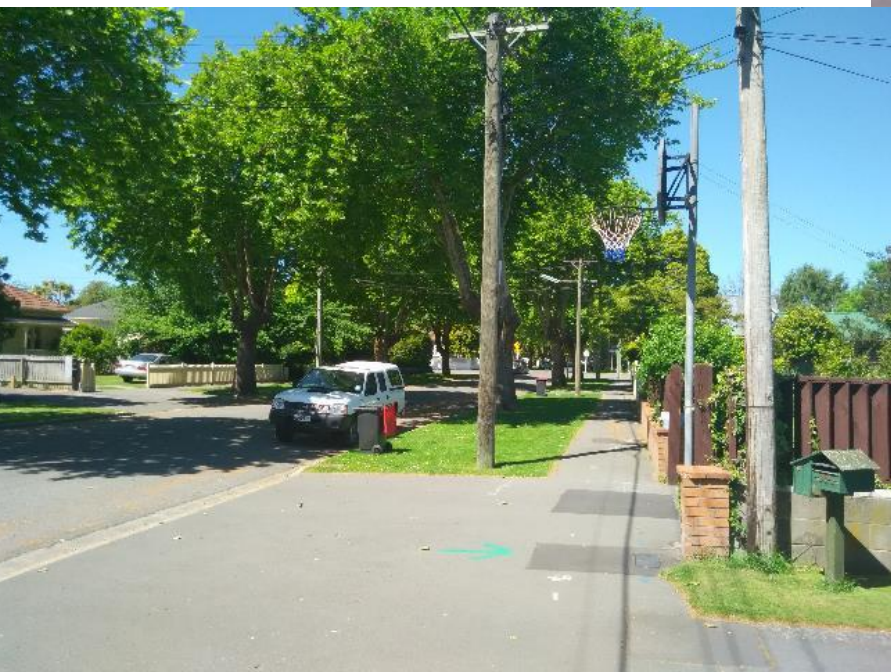
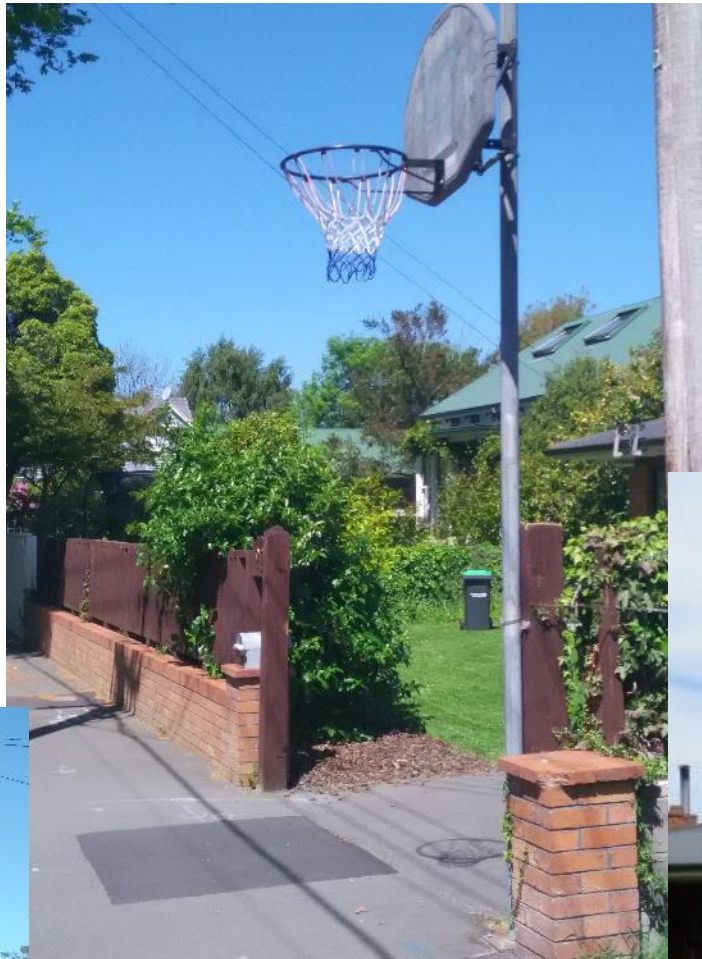
e.g. Vancouver (SK)





# Bumping spaces

e.g. Christchurch (SK)





## Bumping spaces

e.g. Christchurch (Alan Jamieson)



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# Local Initiatives

- Formal and informal e.g. council, central government, NGOs, marae, churches, residents groups

*“living in a village is important which is why we call our community project the village project, it denotes some old fashioned values but they are wonderful, a church, and a pub and a school”*

*“I think a lot of it is about pre-existing community networks and community centre if there is an existing community hub and I think that is around schools too”*

*“Aranui really got together because they had that pre-existing community development stuff beforehand.*

*“Well I think it’s all about going back to the response being enabled by strong community organisations pre-existing in an area. So if you want if you had a good church in that it was functioning connectedly then it would do that.”*

# Intimate streets

- Cul-de-sacs, laneways, back sections

- Noticeable differences among street typology in fostering social connections.
- Shift to private spaces – automatic garage door openers and fences

*“I really think the type of street is important, the cul de sac behind us has been great for us”*

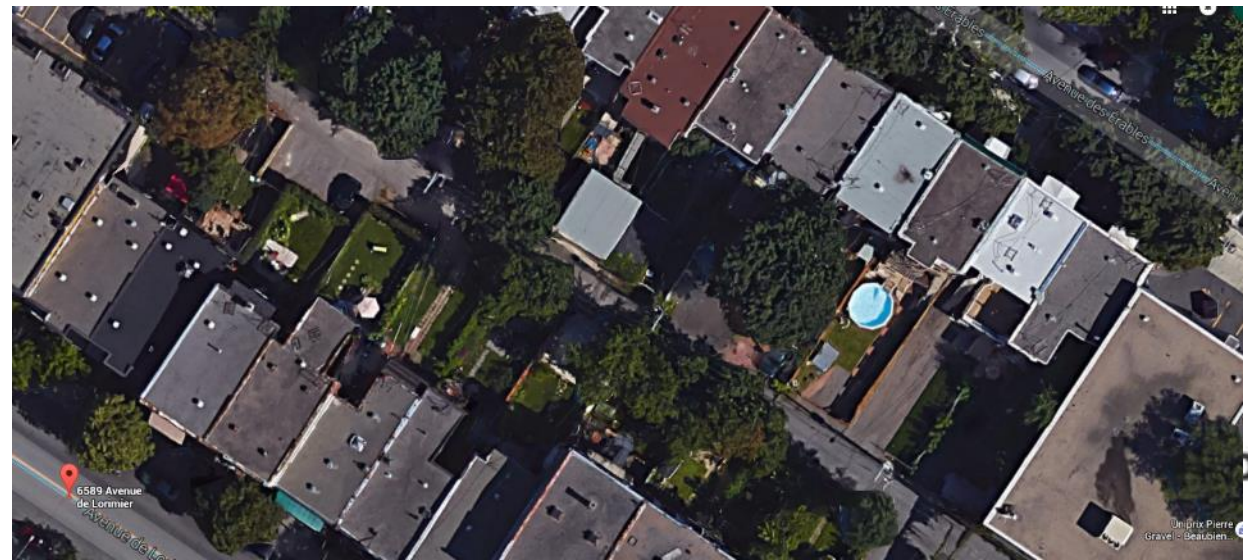
*“Our street is wide so we don’t know each other”*

*“People get into their cars and go to work and then come home press the little button for their garage door and they go inside to their private spaces never once turning around”*

*“I just wonder how lonely some people are behind their private spaces”*

# Back lanes, access ways

e.g. Montreal (google)





Friday, 13 November 2015

## Back lanes as recreational areas

### Popular Now in Metro

KTM begins installing new ticket machines

Giving it my best

High price to pay for security

Dr Fatimah: Non-life threatening cases should avoid A&E units at hospitals

Han emperors' favourite sweet

THE IPOH City Council is mulling the idea of converting back lanes into recreational areas, similar to what is being done in many other countries.

Mayor Datuk Zamri Man said the council is studying the suitable locations at Ipoh's Old and New Town areas.

He said either the back lanes could be converted to recreational areas or made into parking lots.

"Since we have limited places to construct recreational areas within the city, we need to enhance and upgrade the existing ones.



### back lane project - OUR LOST SPACE

WINNER: GRAND PRIZE WINNER



www.chatrust.co.uk/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=49

### CHAT TRUST

Churches Acting Together in Arthur's Hill



Services / Reclaim the Lanes

### Reclaim the Lanes

For anyone familiar with the West End of Newcastle the back lanes of the terraces are known to be an ongoing issue as regards rubbish. Working with

## Gardening? It's right up our alley! Community transforms Victorian passageway behind homes into oasis of greenery

- Once-dingy lane in Middlesbrough now haven of hanging baskets, trellises and trees with apples and pears
- Mavis Arnold has helped turn lane into a wonderland, while neighbouring alleys are still scruffy and rundown
- Alley was well-kept in 1960s but as the decades dragged on residents began to dump their rubbish on cobbles

## NATIONAL POST

FINANCIAL POST • NEWS • COMMENT • PERSONAL FINANCE • INVESTING • TECH • SPORTS • ARTS • LIFE • HEALTH •

NEWS CANADA POLITICS

## CANADA

TRENDING Brexit | Blue Jays | Trump | FP500 | Lotto Max

## Forgotten 'country lane' experiment could be answer to Vancouver's desire for more green space

BRIAN HUTCHINSON | July 2, 2013 5:10 PM ET  
More from Brian Hutchinson | @hutchwriter

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www.bungoblog.com

quick access, place your bookmarks here



Living Here About Strathbungo

### Bungo in the Back Lanes, 2016 – THANK YOU!

June 21st, 2016 Kevin Kane

No comments

A BIG THANK YOU from The Strathbungo Society to everyone who contributed to making Bungo in the Back Lanes, 2016 such a great



# Walkable

- Safe, attractive and connected
  - Knowing those who live near

*“Because walking somewhere you see people and that is really important to us to see people and have that eye contact and being human together”*

*“It can take a long time to get to the shops unlike the places with fences and garages”*

*“Because you walk past you know your neighbours so I know most of the people on my side of the street”*



# Walkable neighbourhoods

e.g. Silverstream

(<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/309949/flood-risk-for-new-kaiapoi-subdivision>)

e.g. Vauban, Freiburg, Germany

(<https://makinglewes.org/2014/01/26/vauban-freiburg-germany/>)



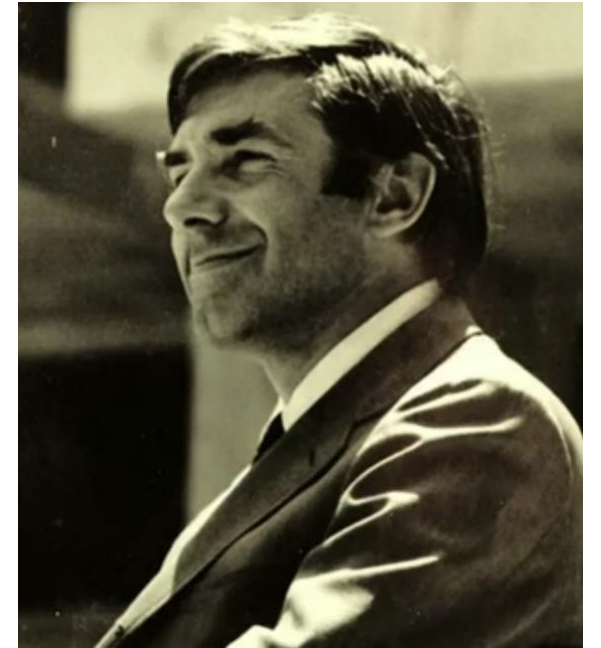
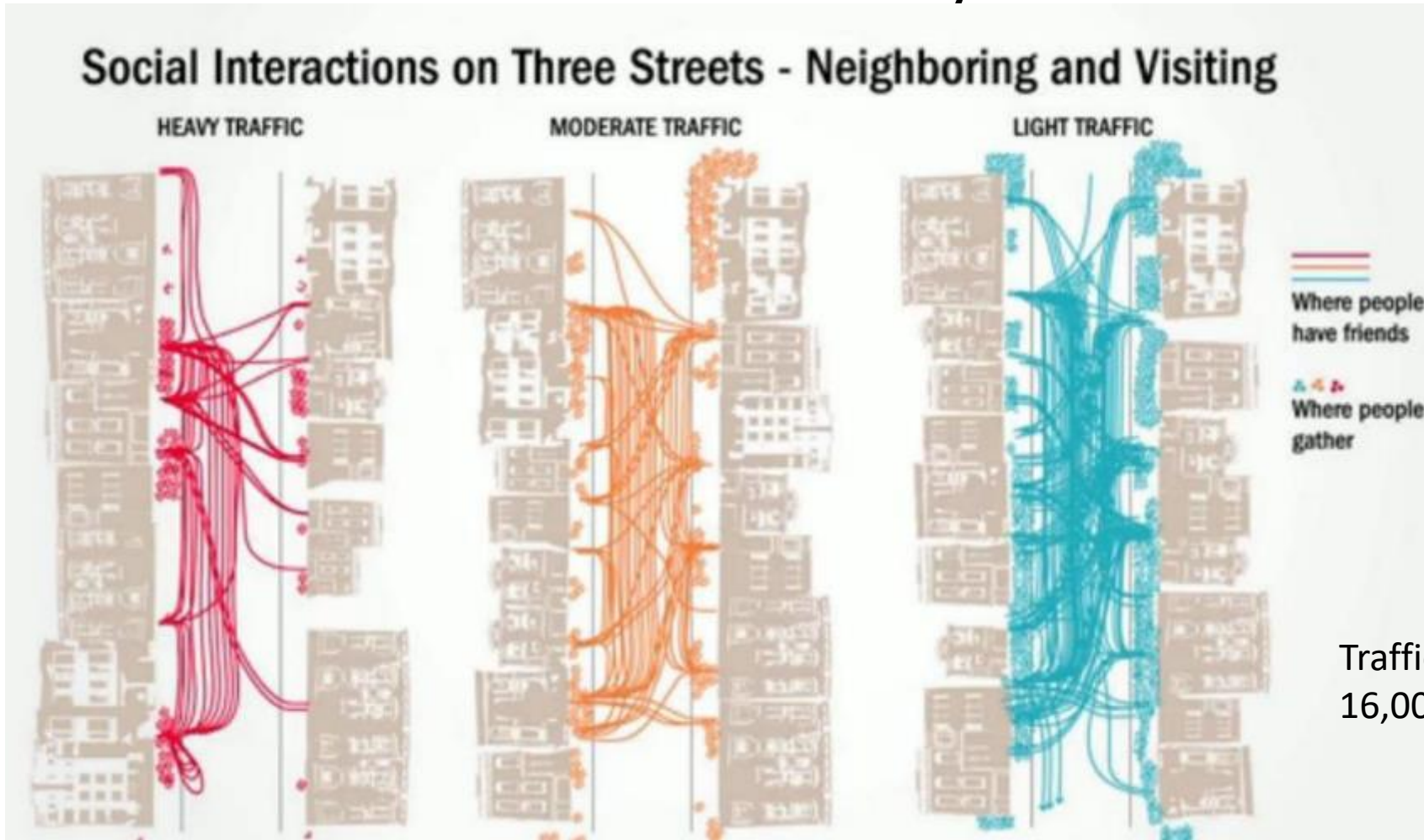


# Traffic and community





# Traffic and community



Donald Appleyard

Traffic levels:  
16,000, 8,000 and 2,000 vehs per day

## LIGHT (< 500 vpd)



5.1 average connections

"We have great neighbours and live in a safe street"  
"I enjoy talking with my neighbours"

## HEAVY (8,400-14,000 vpd)



2.1 average connections

"My street is a car thoroughfare"  
"Lived here over 35 years, a decline in people talking to neighbours and children playing"

## Re-working Appleyard in a low density environment: An exploration of the impacts of motorised traffic volume on street livability in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Wiki J., Kingham S., and Banwell K.

World Transport Policy and Practice  
Volume 24.1 Mar 2018

## MODERATE (1400-2500 vpd)



5.9 average connections

"Most people get out and about and talk on the street"  
"Family-orientated and friendly"

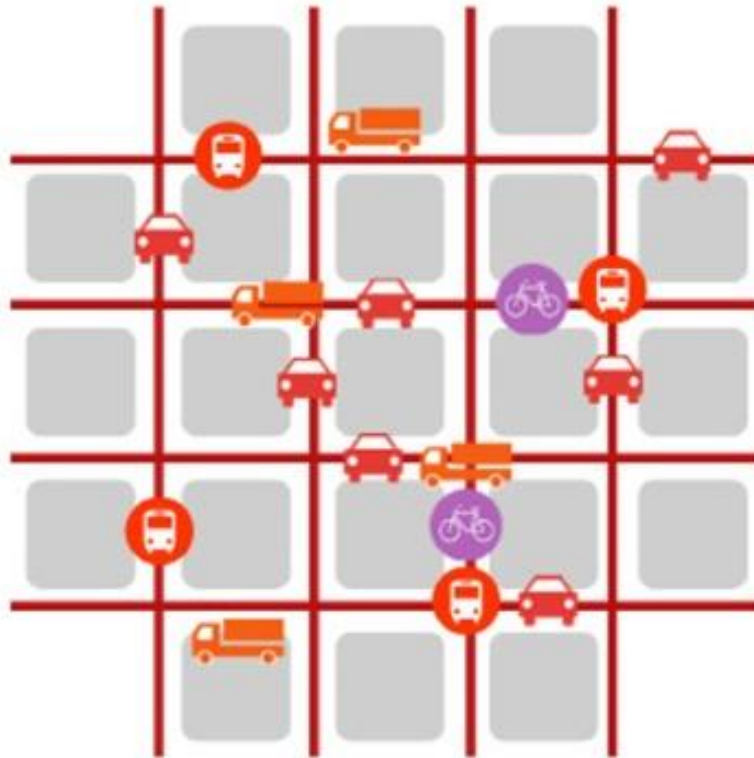


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# Barcelona Superblocks





## Current Model



## Superblocks Model



-  PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK
-  BICYCLES MAIN NETWORK (BIKE LANE)
-  BICYCLES SIGNPOSTS (REVERSE DIRECTION)
-  FREE PASSAGE OF BICYCLES

-  PRIVATE VEHICLE PASSING
-  RESIDENTS VEHICLES
-  URBAN SERVICES AND EMERGENCY
-  DUM CARRIERS

-  DUM PROXIMITY AREA
-  ACCESS CONTROL
-  BASIC TRAFFIC NETWORK
-  SINGLE PLATFORM (PEDESTRIANS PRIORITY)

# Barcelona Superblocks





# Barcelona Superblocks

IMAGE BEFORE



IMAGE AFTER



# Implications & policy responses

- **Streets**

- Reduce traffic – encourage social modes
- Reduce traffic speed
- Better design new streets of 3,000+ vehicles (or retrofit existing)



# Implications & policy responses

- **Places**

- Focus more on public but also recognise need for private space
- Local access to amenity and social infrastructure
  - “If you have to get in your car it’s not local”
- Design *bumping places* (shared space) in new (and existing) urban developments
- Value community role of existing *gathering places* e.g. schools, churches
- Invest in/empower communities

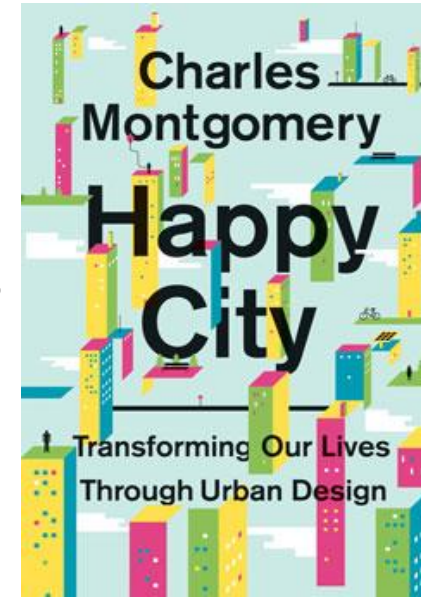
# Co-benefits of community-driven policies

- Community-driven policies
  - Enhance health (& save \$\$)
  - Save money on infrastructure
  - Increase community resilience



# Resilient and healthy communities?

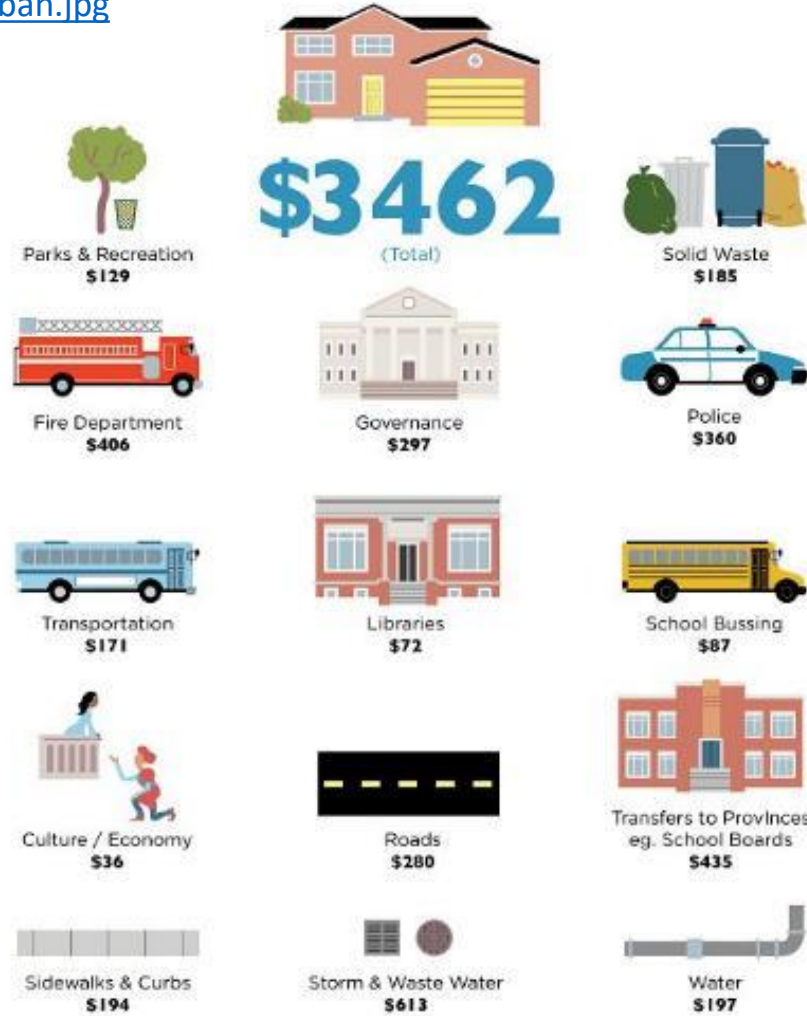
- *“having one friend or family member to confide in had the same effect on life satisfaction as a tripling of income”*
- *“psychotic disorders, including schizophrenia, are most common in neighbourhoods with the thinnest social networks”*
- *“the more connected we are with family and community, the less likely we are to experience colds, heart attacks, strokes, cancer & depression”*
- *“connected people sleep better at night. They are more able to tackle adversity. They live longer. They consistently report being happier.”*
- *“low-density sprawl puts residents at greater risk of arthritis, chronic lung disease, digestive problems, headaches & urinary tract infections.”*



<https://i0.wp.com/usa.streetsblog.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2015/03/sprawlurban.jpg>

# Suburban

## City's Annual Cost, per Household



**SP** Sustainable Prosperity

For more data and more reports, visit [thecostofsprawl.com](http://thecostofsprawl.com)  
Data based on Halifax Regional Municipality

# Urban

## City's Annual Cost, per Household



**SP** Sustainable Prosperity

For more data and more reports, visit [thecostofsprawl.com](http://thecostofsprawl.com)  
Data based on Halifax Regional Municipality



# Features of good community

- Diversity of housing types
- Low or no fences
- Green (and blue) space
- Close proximity to facilities e.g. schools, shops, job
- Good public transport
- Walkable
- Low/slow traffic
- '*Physical activity*' able

# Final thoughts

- Geography, traffic & streetscape affect community development in Christchurch
- We *can* plan to create resilient, sustainable urban communities
- Social infrastructure important for enhancing community (e.g. *bumping spaces* and *gathering spaces*)
- Multiple co-benefits of investing in community
- “*If you have to get in your car it’s not local*”



# Thanks and questions